

Buffalo Trail Council – Successes and Key Facts:

- The Council serves over **5,100 youth** in 514 Packs, Troops, Crews, Posts, and Groups covering 18 counties and 15 cities in West Texas.
 - Council headquarters is located in Midland, TX, with 15 full-time, five part-time employees and 75+ seasonal.
 - There are **108 local charter organizations**.
- Of the youth served in 2007, over **2,600 were “at-risk” youth** including over 1,300 Hispanic youth.
- Approximately **1,300 adult volunteers** serve Council youth.
- **1,903 merit badges earned**, top five: First Aid, Swimming, Environmental Science, Family Life, Emergency Preparedness
- **37 Scouts** attained the rank of **Eagle Scout**.
- **Over 10,000 hours of service** rendered in neighborhoods and communities throughout West Texas
- Nearly **299 Cub Scouts** and family members participated in **Cub Family** overnight experiences.
- Earned the **Quality Council Award** and had five out of five districts earn the Quality District Award.
- Approximately **3,000 Scouts and leaders** from roughly **5 states (18 different councils)** **camp** each year at the **Buffalo Trail Scout Ranch** – one of the **largest council-owned camps** in the country, featuring **9,000+ acres** (access to an additional 32,000 acres).

2007 Year BSA Statistics:

Scouting Membership Facts

Cub Scouts	1,687,706
Boy Scouts	913,868
Venturers	254,259
Total Scouts	2,855,833

Total Adult Leaders: 1,138,804

Total Youth and Adults 3,994,637

Eagle Scouts 51,742

√ Highest ever and over 200K in past four years)

Boys' Life Subs 1,100,000

√ Total Audience 8,690,000

Scouting Magazine Subs 1,000,000

√ Total Audience 3,100,000

Good Turn for America Service: 6.6 million hours 2004 – 2007

Learning for Life Participants/Explorers 1,788,276

√ Adults 60,390

Selected overall Stats (Since 1910)

- √ Total living former Scouts estimated at 50 million.
- √ **One-half of adult men in America** have been a Cub Scout, Boy Scout or Scout leader.
- √ Total **Eagle Scouts** Awarded approximately **1.9 million**.
- √ Estimated living **Eagle Scouts - 1 million**.

Americans **bought more than \$200 million in popcorn and other products** from Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts.

- √ Nearly **\$70 million went directly back to unit** programs
- √ Another **\$70 million supported council** programs.

Famous Scouts

- Gerald Ford, 38th President of the US (Eagle Scout)
- Bob Gates, Secretary of Defense (Eagle Scout)
- Hank Aaron, Baseball Great (Boy Scout)
- Jim Lovell, astronaut (Eagle Scout)
- Steve Young, Football Great (Cub Scout)
- Michael Jordon, Basketball Great (Cub Scout)
- Steve Fossett, Adventurer (Eagle Scout)
- Brian Urlacher, Chicago Bear (Cub Scout)
- Tom Brokaw, TV Newscaster/Author (Eagle Scout)
- Gary Locke, Former Washington State Governor, (Eagle Scout)
- Edward James Olmos, Actor, (Eagle Scout)

Core Messages for Use with All Audiences:

- The Boy Scouts' purpose is simple: **it's to build the character and integrity** of America's youth and **prepare them to become responsible adults**: adults who are leaders and adults who participate in society according to our Scout Oath and Law.
 - That Oath and that Law are founded on **trustworthiness, loyalty, and bravery**, and on **values** that put **community and family first**.
- Every Boy Scout lives out a set of principles that were laid down a long time ago. Our Oath teaches **duty to God, country, others and self**.
 - The Boy Scout Law describes **how to live a life of honor** by being trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent. I've always felt that familiar list was more than just the description of a Boy Scout. To me, it's the epitome of a **volunteer**.
- You may know that the Scouts' motto is "**Do a Good Turn Daily**." But you may not know why. It has to do with how American Scouting came to be – and why today, that phrase is at the heart of a program that gives every Boy Scout a chance to volunteer to help the people around him or her.
 - In 1909, a Chicago publisher named **William Boyce** got lost in the London fog. A young boy helped him find his way, but wouldn't take the shilling Boyce offered. He said Scouts don't take payment for "doing a good turn."
 - Boyce, on the other hand, had never heard of Scouts, but **he was so intrigued** that he learned all about the British program, then came home and helped create the Boy Scouts of America.
- Now, nearly **100 years later**, we are preparing to celebrate our **100th Anniversary**. For 100 years, the Boy Scouts of America has created **a strong foundation of leadership, service, and community** for millions of America's youth.
 - We **celebrate this legacy** as we **reaffirm our commitment** to inspire and **prepare future generations** of leaders.
 - Scouting has **brought families and communities together for 100** years to prepare America's youth to live, work, and play with character and integrity.
 - **Scouting** is as **vital and relevant today** as it was when our journey began
- Three years ago, the Boy Scouts of America conducted a study on ***The Values of Americans – a Study of Ethics and Character***. The study showed that Scouting **continues to make a positive impact in the lives of youth**.
 - Scouts show **higher self-confidence, leadership skills**, and a **greater interest in helping others** than youth who are not Scouts.
- I believe that today – more than ever – **America needs volunteers** to address the issues youth and families face today – which overcoming hunger, lack of adequate shelter, poor health and to "show a great interest in helping others."
 - **I believe America needs Scouts**.